



Shoring up our Future: A Long-term Framework for the Texas Coast

GSA BBASC

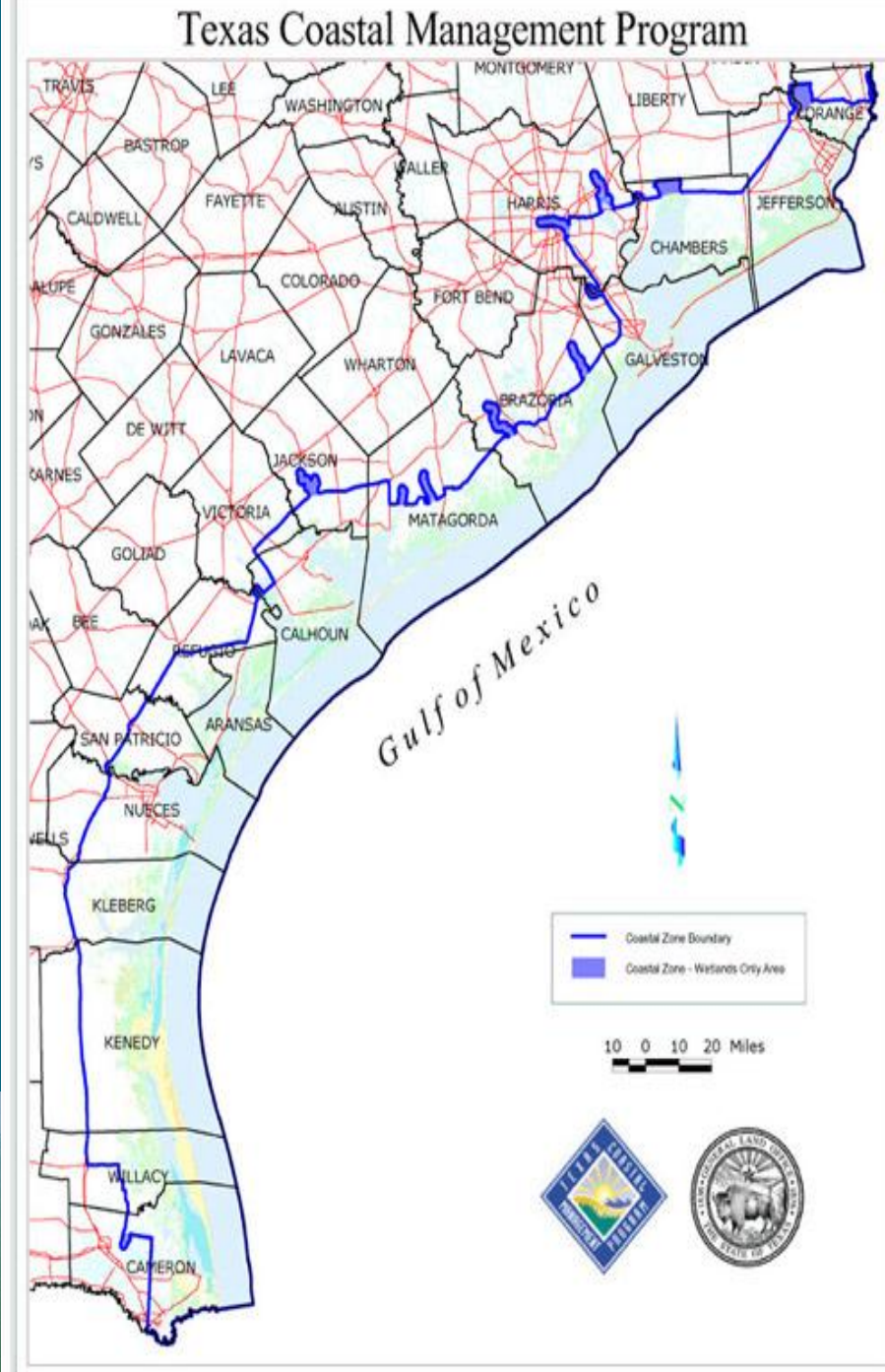
August 22, 2013



Texas Coastal Management Program

Purpose:

- The Coastal Management Program (CMP) was federally approved by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) in 1997.
- To improve the management of the state's coastal resources.
- To ensure the long-term ecological and economic productivity of the coast.



CMP Goals & Policies

- The CMP is a “networked “ program
- **CMP Goals & Policies focus on:**
 - Coastal erosion
 - Wetland protection
 - Water supply and water quality
 - Dune protection
 - Shoreline access
- **CMP identifies 16 Coastal Natural Resource Areas**
(i.e. wetlands, preserves, beaches, dunes, reefs, aquatic vegetation, etc.)



Framework Development using the CMP Section 309 Strategies & Assessment

- HRI was contracted to draft the required CMP §309 Assessment & Strategies Report for 2011-2015.
- Report developed in conjunction with Networked Agencies & distributed for public comment/ review.
- This Report & Strategy was submitted and approved by NOAA for §309 grant funding approval for the next five years.
- The breadth of the effort in soliciting input from so many different sources through HRI, extends the relevance of the results beyond §309 funding to all Coastal Resource planning.



Assessment Results: Enhancement Area Priorities



**Cumulative &
Secondary
Impacts**



Coastal Hazards



Public Access



Wetlands



**Ocean
Resources**



Marine Debris



**Energy &
Government
Facility Siting**



Aquaculture

Note: Texas cannot create SAMPs

Assessment: Identified High Priority Needs

Wetlands

- Freshwater inflows data
- Develop habitat restoration plans

Coastal Hazards

- Public education about hazards
- Statewide sea level rise assessment
- Coastal hazards planning for local communities

Public Access

- Public access data
- Effects of SLR on public access
- Planning for continued accessibility

Marine Debris

- Storm-water discharge data
- Data on impacts to wildlife
- Debris removal response

Cumulative & Secondary Impacts

- Community planning in coastal areas to mitigate vulnerability to coastal hazards
- Sediment management plans

Energy & Gov't Facility Siting

- Coastal and marine spatial planning for offshore energy siting

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➤ Develop a framework for pro-active long-term planning and management of coastal resources, utilizing coastal & marine spatial planning concepts (CMSP).

Potential Benefits:

- Identification of critical areas and resources
- Better information (data) for decision making
- Reduce uncertainty and potential conflicts for planning and development
- Increased coordination across state and federal agencies

We want to integrate conservation and development priorities in a way that pays off both now and for future generations.



A Snapshot of the Texas Coast

- Help guide coastal decision makers and serve as a baseline for developing a long-term spatial planning tool.
- Identify current issues of concern and potential solutions in the 4 Texas coastal regions.
- A Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) of coastal experts was formed to evaluate the issues of concern and critical areas for the 4 coastal regions.
- Held 4 Regional TAC meetings along the Coast. (September 2012)



Technical Advisory Committee

➤ Technical Advisory Committee (TAC):

- State & federal agencies, local gov't, universities, NGOs, NPOs, engineering firms, ports, regional trusts, foundations and partnerships.

➤ At regional meetings TAC identified critical areas in sub-regions and evaluated projects for:

- Benefits
- Feasibility
- How they address area issues of concern
- Economic loss
- Social-value loss
- Ecologic loss



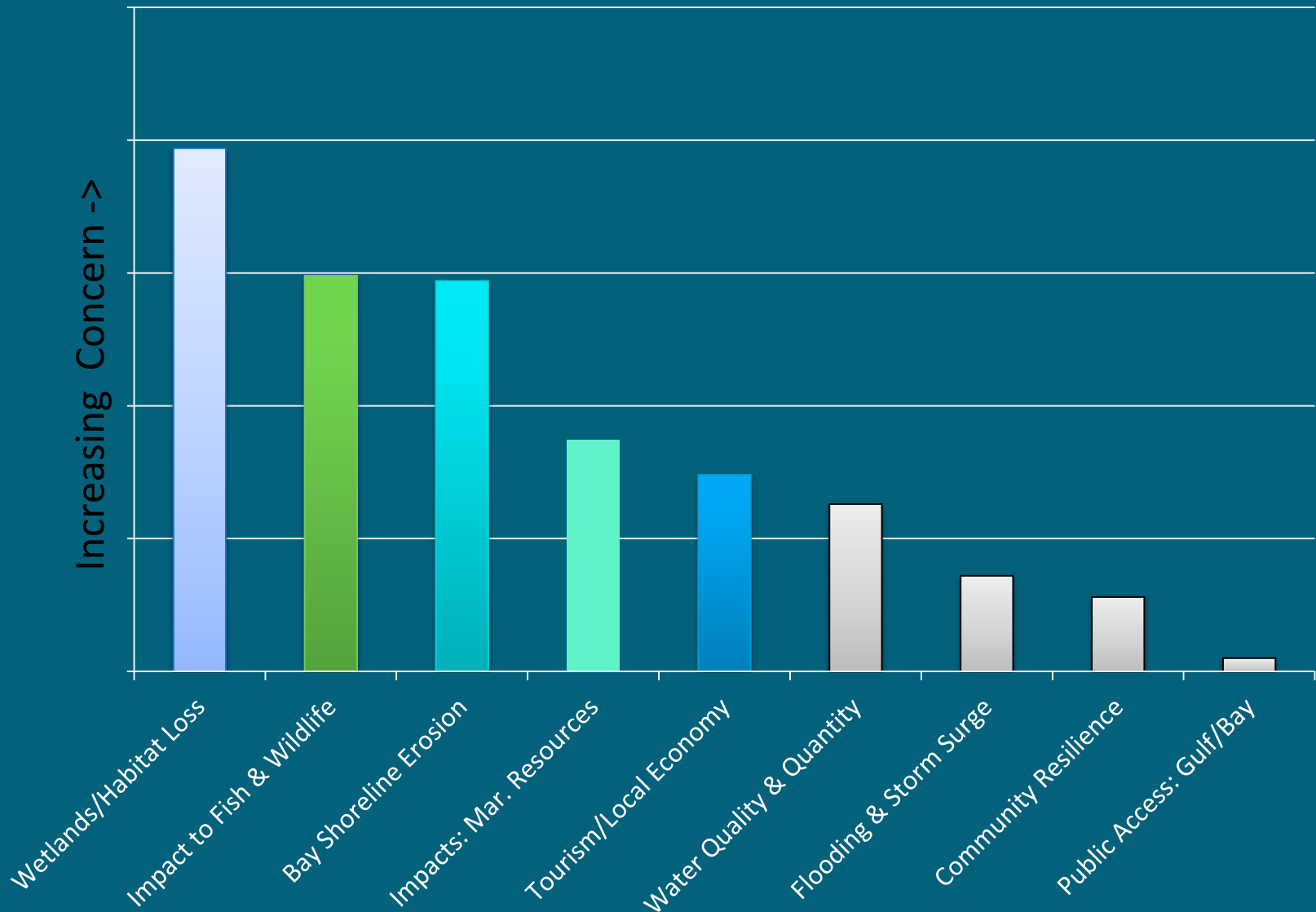
Issues of Concern for Areas within the Region

Issues of Concern for the Surrounding Area of this Project:

Please fill in the issue boxes below with the corresponding level of concern associated with this area:

	0 – not at all concerned	1 – slightly concerned	2- moderately concerned	3- very concerned	4- extremely concerned
a. Wetlands & Habitat Loss	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Gulf Beach Erosion & Dune Degradation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Bay Shoreline Erosion	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Flooding & Storm Surge	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Water Quality & Quantity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Public Access: Gulf & Bay	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. Impacts to Fish & Wildlife	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h. Impacts to Marine Resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
i. Navigation: Commercial & Recreation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
j. Marine Debris	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
k. Public Health & Safety	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
l. Land Subsidence	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
m. Invasive Species	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
n. Lack of Info & Data	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
o. Community Resilience	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
p. Tourism and Local Economy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
q. Other _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Region 3 Issues of Concern



Coastwide Issues of Concern



Wetlands &
Habitat Loss



Impacts to Fish &
Wildlife



Gulf Beach/Dune
Erosion



Water Quality &
Quantity



Tourism & Local
Economy



Bay Shoreline
Erosion



Flooding & Storm
Surge



Impacts to Marine
Resources

Local Officials Meetings

- Local officials meetings were held in each of the four regions to expand upon the Issues of Concern identified by the TAC and to identify the environmental “gems” in their areas.
- Need to communicate the importance of the coast to the rest of the state.
- Need community level planning and coalitions.
- Salinity, siltation, erosion are big causes wetlands, marsh and oyster reef loss.
- A strong, healthy dune system is key.
- Critical infrastructure sits along the GIWW and ports.
- Tourism & eco-tourism important to local economies.
- Upstream watershed issues impact the coast.
- Increasing population pressures.

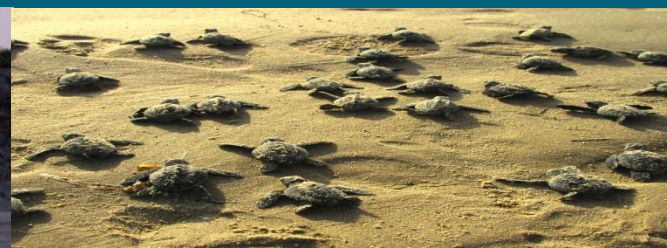
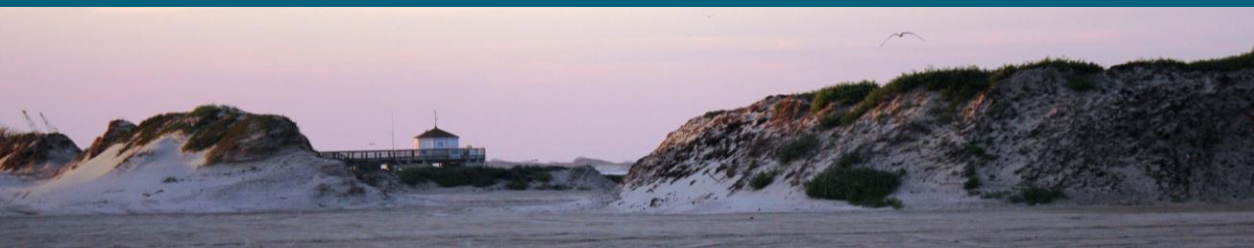


Next Steps

- Website development on coastal issues of concern to assist decision makers and planners on future uses and development.
- Data Standard Committee will gather current data and information on natural resources.

Priority Data Sets:

- Marine Transportation, Infrastructure and Obstructions (oil/gas pipelines)
 - Living Marine Resources
 - Benthic and Seafloor
 - Coastal Habitats (wetlands and uplands)
 - Human Use areas
 - Coastal Population and Socio-Economic Data
- Spatial planning tool will be developed to detail current natural resource areas for better planning to manage conflicting uses.
 - Resource Management Codes (RMC)
 - The GLO maintains a natural resource information database that identifies sensitive biologic habitats, cultural resources, and other areas of concern on state-owned lands
 - Stakeholder input will be a valuable part of this initiative.



Resource Management Codes Up Close

Water Body:	MATAGORDA BAY	Tract:	68
County:	CALHOUN	Acres:	725
Part:	CALHOUN CO NAVI DIST		
Control #:	02-022420		
ALL:	DA, DB, MA, ME, MK	USFWS:	DA, ME
NMFS:	DB, ME	TPWD:	DB, ME
COE:	MA	THC:	MK

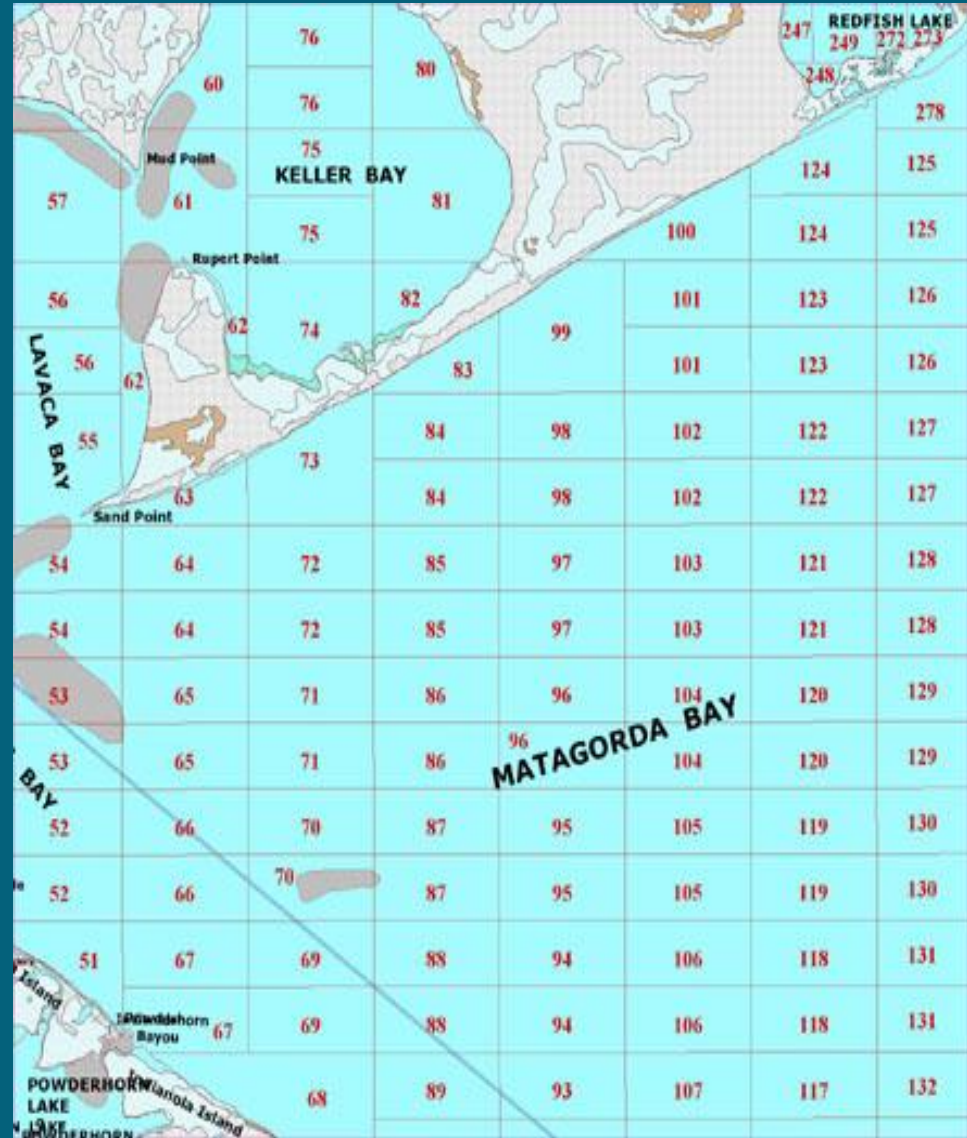
DA – No dredging

DB – No dredging in water less than 4 feet deep

MA – No special recommendations.

ME – Avoid marshes and other sensitive resource areas

MK – State Archeological Landmarks/cultural resources



THE TEXAS COAST: SHORING UP OUR FUTURE



www.ShoringUpTexas.org



Questions?



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Coastal Resources

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